MINISTRY OF HEALTH
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Kearsley Urban District Council

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1965

R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
M.O.H.

F. BROOK, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Publfc Health Inspector.

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MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Councillor W. J. J. RATCLIFFE

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor Mrs. B. K. RYAN

Members:

Councillor E. G. BELL
„ K. H. COLLEY
„ T. COOPER
„ J. HOLLINSHEAD, C.C.
„ G. HOLT
„ T. LUBY
„ D. McINTYRE
„ A. T. NOWELL
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„ E. YATES

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health
R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector ... ... F. BROOK, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk ... ... Miss M. LINGARD

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

To the Chairman and Members of the Kearsley Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present the Annual Report on the health of the Urban District for the year 1965.

Table I gives the vital statistics for the past ten years and it shows that 1965, as far as Death Rate, Birth Rate, Infantile Mortality and Still Births Rates indicate, has been a year of good health in the district. The Birth Rate is unchanged from last year and remains higher than any recorded in the last twenty years despite the glut of contraceptive measures.

Lung cancer accounts for a high proportion of cancer deaths and coronary thrombosis a high proportion of heart disease fatalities. There has been a decline in deaths due to lung infections and in this day of penicillin and the antibiotics, pneumonia is no longer the dread disease it once was.

Infectious diseases are of little account. The rise in the number of measles was not unexpected, and the six paratyphoid cases were infected in a distant coastal area and arrived in this district on the first day of their symptoms.

TABLE I.

YEAR	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Death Rate	12.8	15.7	15.2	14.3	13.5	15.5	16.1	14.5	15.3	12.2
Birth Rate	16.2	13.5	16.0	13.5	17.2	16.1	15.8	18.8	21.9	21.8
Infantile Mortality Rate ...	30.0	57.0	12.0	21.4	22.5	36.1	42.7	27.6	47.4	22.8
Still Birth Rate	29.0	34.0	29.2	14.1	16.6	6.0	12.0	16.3	27.6	13.5
Causes of Death:										
Heart Disease	(14) 38	(17) 57	(25) 42	(20) 37	(30) 47	(18) 40	(10) 27	(10) 35	(13) 42	(11) 37
Cancer	(3) 11	(3) 18	(5) 25	(8) 23	(4) 20	(5) 18	(7) 21	(3) 14	(6) 30	(6) 24
Vascular lesions of nervous system	14	26	25	25	13	16	27	28	21	10
Bronchitis	12	6	4	6	7	10	5	4	5	7
Pneumonia	3	2	5	7	4	2	8	8	4	Nil

The figures in brackets are those of Coronary Thrombosis and Lung Cancer.

TABLE II.

DETAILS OF PEOPLE AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER

	65—70	71—75	76—80	81—85	Over 85	Total
January	1	–	2	–	–	3
February	–	1	1	–	–	2
March	1	2	2	1	–	6
April	7	6	2	1	–	16
May	1	–	–	1	1	3
June	2	1	–	–	1	4
July	4	1	1	1	1	8
August	–	1	1	–	–	2
September	1	2	1	1	1	6
October	1	2	–	–	–	3
November	3	2	–	1	–	6
December	2	1	2	2	3	10
TOTALS	23	19	12	8	7	69

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area—1,728 statute acres (approx.).
Population—Estimated June, 1965—10,970.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

	Total	Males	Females
Births:			
Legitimate	211	120	91
Illegitimate	8	5	3
Still Births:			
Legitimate	3	3	—
Illegitimate	—	—	—

	Kearsley	England & Wales
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	21.8	18.1
Still Births per 1,000 total births	13.5	15.7

	Total	Males	Females
Deaths	116	63	53

	Kearsley	England & Wales
Death Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)	12.2	11.5

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth Nil

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:

	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	12	7	5
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil

	Kearsley	England & Wales
Infant Mortality Rate: (All infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births)	22.8	19.0
Perinatal Mortality Rate: (Per 1,000 total births)	27.0	26.9
Maternal Mortality Rate: (Per 1,000 total births)	Nil	0.25

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	24
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1965

Vascular lesions of Nervous System	10
Heart Diseases	37
Hypertension with Heart Disease	3
Other Circulatory Diseases	7
Cancer of lung and bronchus	6
Leukaemia	1
Cancer	18
Diabetes	4
Syphilitc Disease	1
Bronchitis	7
Other diseases of respiratory system	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8
Motor vehicle accidents	4
All other accidents	3
Congenital malformations	2
	116

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a list of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year 1965:—

Disease	No.
Scarlet Fever	8
Dysentery	1
Measles	98
Pneumonia (all forms)	1
Paratyphoid Fever	6

Cases removed to Hospital from the district:—

Paratyphoid Fever	6

Tuberculosis—Cases Notified:—

Respiratory	2

The treatment of all cases of tuberculosis is undertaken by the County Council.

FOOD POISONING

During the year there was one case of Food Poisoning reported.

SCARLET FEVER

Eight cases of Scarlet Fever were reported during the year, and all of these were nursed at home.

DIPHTHERIA

For the nineteenth year in succession there were no cases of Diphtheria.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The bacteriological examination of sputum is undertaken by the Lancashire Tuberculosis Committee.

The bacteriological examination of milk and water samples and ot pathological specimens is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Bolton Royal Infimary.

WATER SUPPLY

Bolton Corporation having merged with Irwell Valley Water Board as from the 1st April, 1963, is now the sole source of supply for the whole of the district.

The Chemical Analysis and Bacteriological examinations are now given collectively for the areas previously supplied by Bolton Corporation Waterworks, Irwell Valley Water Board and Bacup Corporation Water Undertaking. These show that the quality and quantity is satisfactory.

There are four houses, with a population of 10, in the outlying district known as Giant's Seat, dependent on well water, which is not a connected supply.

	Bolton Corp.
No. of bacteriological examinations of raw water ...	672
Results	Satisfactory
No. of chemical analyses	16
Results	Satisfactory
Water going into supply where treatment is installed:—	
No. of bacteriological examinations	1,783
Results	Satisfactory
No. of chemical analyses	28
Results	Satisfactory
Action taken in respect of any form of contamination ...	No contam'tion
Liability to plumbo-solvent action	None

All dwelling houses in the district, except for four, are supplied from public water mains direct to the houses.

HOUSING

Private enterprise built 71 houses and 10 flats during the year. There is not in the urban district an acute shortage of housing accommodation, and the housing list is now mainly composed of people desiring houses better placed and with better amenities than those which they at present occupy.

In October 1963 a schedule of houses with an expected life of less than 15 years was prepared, of this number 229 were to be dealt with in the first five years. 190 of these were dealt with before the end of 1965.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

	Houses	Flats	Bungalows
(1) By the local authority ...	92	—	—
(2) By other local authorities ...	—	—	—
(3) By other bodies or persons ...	71	10	—

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 97

(b) No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose 200

(2) Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit and in respect of which:-
Demolition, Clearance or Closing orders have been made (at any time). 65

(3) No. of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit ... 32

2. Houses Demolished:—

In Clearance Areas:—

	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	60	90	25
(2) Houses included by bad arrangement, etc.	—	—	—
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
Not in Clearance Areas:—			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	—	71	18

3. Unfit Houses Closed:—

	Number		
(1) Under Section 16(4), 17(1), and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
(2) Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
(3) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act, 1957 ...	—	—	—

4. Unfit Houses Made Fit and Houses in which Defects were remedied:—

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(1) After informal action by local authority ...	19	—
(2) After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Acts	11	—
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	—	—
(3) Under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957 ...	—	—

5. Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 and House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959:—

Standard Grants:—

Action during year:—	*No. of dwellings or other buildings affected*
(i) Applications submitted to local authority	3
(ii) Applications approved by local authority	3
(iii) Work completed	6

The Council also makes loans under the above provisions for the construction, acquisition, improvement and repair of houses.

6. Housing Conditions:—

Approximately 30 per cent. of the houses in Kearsley may be classed as old, 19 per cent. as medium and 51 per cent. as modern.

(i) In hand at end of year:—

25 Houses.

The erection of 29 Bungalows for aged persons is contemplated during 1966.

NOTICES

Twenty-nine preliminary notices were served during the year.

HOUSE REFUSE SCAVENGING

Statement showing the number of receptacles emptied during the year:—

Ashbins	199,186
Pails	138
Total loads removed	2,921

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at Singing Clough Tip. This method continues to be most satisfactory.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The sanitary accommodation of the district at the end of the year was as follows:—

Fresh water closets	4,149
Waste water closets	44
Ashbins	4,345
Pails	5

SALVAGE

The collection and sale of salvage continues to be successful. During the year under review the combined weight of salvage collected was 182 tons 1 cwts. 3 qtrs, made up as follows:—

	T.	C.	Q.
Waste Paper	140	3	3
Kitchen Waste	17	11	0
Miscellaneous	24	7	0

The total value was £1,365-11-10.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Drainage is partly on the combined and partly on the separate system. The following summary shows how the sewage is dealt with:—

Sewage Works.	Method of Treatment.
Clammerclough	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Main Outfall, Kearsley Green ...	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Ringley	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Prestolee	Detritus tanks, aeration tanks, humus tanks and storm tanks.

At Horridge Brook and Unity Brook the sewage is lifted by automatic ejectors into sewers connected with the Main Outfall Works.

The new works of the Bolton & District Joint Sewerage Board were officially opened in June, 1964.

ICE CREAM

There are now 42 shops in the urban district registered for the sale of ice cream.

Eleven samples of ice cream were procured and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Bolton Royal Infirmary, for bacteriological examination, and the results were satisfactory.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

During the year the following food was found to be unfit for human consumption, and was voluntarily surrendered by the owners:—

Tinned Ham 28lbs.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

The County Council is the authority under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

A total of 46 samples were obtained, consisting of 20 samples of milk (1 of which was Channel Islands milk) and 26 others comprising:-

1 liquid paraffin emulsion
1 ferrodic tablets
2 olive oil B.P.
1 black treacle
2 canned fish
1 tea
1 laxative tablets
1 ice lollies
1 paracetamol tablets
1 effervescent aspirin tablets
1 vegetables, canned
1 pork sausage
1 beef sausage
1 Epsom Salts, B.P.
1 coffee
1 plain flour
1 pickled onions
1 cooking fat
1 fruit curd
1 milk condensed, special full cream, sweetened
2 sweets
2 fruit dried

I give below details of those samples upon which the County Analyst gave adverse reports: —

Type	Results of Analysis	Action taken
One Olive Oil B.P.	Contained 0.2% water	Vendor informed
One formal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 3.5% extraneous water	Producer interviewed and further sample obtained

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND BAKEHOUSES

During the year twenty-four visits were paid to factories and workplaces, and forty visits to Bakehouses.

The premises were in a satisfactory condition.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

There was one case of bed bugs found during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

One man is engaged solely on this work.

One sewer maintenance treatment has been carried out during the year.

The following action relating to rodent control has also been carried out:—

	Type of Property		
	Non-agricultural		
	Dwelling Houses	All Other	Agricultural
(a) No of properties in the district	3,779	662	12
(b) No. of properties inspected ...	1,360	398	12
(c) Total inspections carried out (incl. re-inspections)	2,226	402	12
(d) No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:			
Rats—major	—	—	—
Rats—minor	48	45	—
Mice—major	—	—	—
Mice—minor	97	33	—
(e) No. of infested properties treated	217	157	—
(f) Total treatments carried out (incl. re-treatments)	217	157	—
(g) No. of 'Block' control schemes carried out	—	—	—

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1st January, 1965, to 31st December, 1965

Visits to Infectious Diseases	8
Visits to Property Under Notice	480
Visits to Factories and Workplaces	24
Visits to Bakehouses	40
Visits to Shops	40
Interviews with Owners, Builders, Architects, etc.	25
Inspections of Drains, etc., and Works in Progress	120
General visits—no nuisances	720
Smoke Control Area	252
	1,709

This report records the last full years work of Mr. F. Brook, Public Health Inspector who joined the staff in 1933. He was a loyal colleague, a good friend and most diligent and conscientious in his duties. It was a privilege to work alongside him, and his retirement, imminent at the time of writing is well and truly earned.

As in previous years the encouragement and help afforded me by the Chairman and members of the Council and the loyalty and co-operation of the staff make me very grateful and very much in their debt.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959

PART I OF THE ACT

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Numbers of Inspections	Numbers of Written notices	Numbers of Occupiers prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	69	60	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	21	18	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	90	78	Nil	Nil

2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	5	5	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S. 2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	5	5	Nil	Nil	Nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Out-work

(Sections 110 and 111)

	Section 110			Section 111		
Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecu-tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole-some premises	Notices served	Prosecu-tions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil